

MR. OGORMAN'S STRONG CASE

CONTINUATION OF THE MUSIC FESTIVAL

An Afternoon with Wagner.

A serious domestic dilemma that would result from the acceptance of parts of the Testimony for the Defense—The Story Still Tumble to Agree at a Late Hour.

Mr. William A. Beach summed up yesterday the evidence presented in behalf of the Hon. Richard O'Gorman in the quo warrant proceedings against Judge Aronow. He began with a brief reference to the importance of the trial and the fact that the character of Judge Speir had been brought into the case. He would leave it to the jury to determine whether there was not something mysterious and unexplained in the history of this family which would point to the delusion under which Judge Speir labored.

It was a happy moment for Wagner when he determined to trust himself to the heroic old Scandinavian legends of the Nibelungs as a basis for his dramas. The mine was an exhaustless one, the materials of that mystic, imaginative kind that were peculiarly sympathetic to the public taste of that time. Author and subject were moreover wonderfully allied since the days when the great Frobenius embodied the Divine Comedy.

The strife that Wagner made from the standpoint of modern opera to the position that he assumes toward the art of music was a gigantic one. He placed a great and practically an impassable gulf between himself and all other composers. The step was so vast that he completely severed himself from all his co-workers in art. It was a step so great that it could only be taken by ambition stimulated by genius of the highest kind. On the

defenses of that certain business undulated and unexplained claimed his attention. I am led to believe that there was some lingering motive of interest beyond that which he has named. I am led to believe that he had some personal motives which have prompted him to venture on that precipitated ground, and no other is so suitable to the poetic style into which the illustrious composer has cast his muse.

What we know of him on this side the water owe to the persistent zeal of his untiring propagandist, Theodore Thomas. And the strongest and clearest light that this faithful proselyte has ever shed upon the works of the master whom he so faithfully admires, was that which fell yesterday in a golden stream over the most beautiful scenes of his four great works, the "Ringgold," the "Walkyrie," "Siegfried," and the "Götterdämmerung." Together the extracts occupied three hours of time in the performance, and they easily equalled in length one of the entire dramas, while certainly they surpassed in interest any possible extract representation of either of the dramas.

The selections were made with great skill. First and last they give to the hearer a great proportion of those famous leading motives or themes that are woven into the structure of the four dramas, and appearing and reappearing in every form of counterpoint, and under every possible harmonic guise, give to the whole its life, beauty, and stimulus, marking each separate character with a strong melodic figure, which becomes a part of him, inaudible and inseparable.

In these leading motives—character-melodies, so to speak, and their exquisitely rich and varied orchestral treatment—lies one of the prime secrets of the Wagnerian art. The excellent text book prepared for the Festival points them clearly out, so that the most un instructed cannot have failed, as the splendid series of mythical pictures—this panorama of the Scandinavian demi-gods swept by to distinguish something of the meaning and purposes, and of the genius of the composer.

From the Rheingold was taken the opening scene of the three Rhine daughters, and Alberich, the thief of the gold, Wotan's apostrophe to Walhalla, Loge's monologue, and the splendid closing scene of that prologue.

From the Walkyrie the introduction to the first act was given, the scene of the fight between the two brothers, and the scene of the death of Hunding.

The debate on the bill can't run without the 10% A. M. to P. M. It was only at long intervals that the rank and file question was fully reported of the speeches would be invaluable.

Even the sole Dr. Ford wandered off into the pretensions of the Tammany contingent to set up as the party of purity and anti-monopolists.

He described it as a party built up on the principles of malfiance, and sketched its subsequent history down to the defeat of Hancock.

There was also a speech from Mr. Hollins, who record in it, it was all apparent that he was not entitled to hold his office as long as he did and that the people had an unique

right to the tombstones that contradicted the evidence of Judge Speir. Mr. Beach said: These stones are gravest upon men, and those who were buried in them crumble under the influence of time. They can't be given to the right of memory.

He also said that the man who had written the resignation letter to Judge Speir, when he admitted that the people had the right to elect his successor. Considering that Judge Speir's own letter was an admission that he reached the age of 70 in 1881. But if the Judge was 70 years of age, he was 100 years old record in it, it was all apparent that he was not entitled to hold his office as long as he did and that the people had an unique

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